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# ASI ADJUSTS FOR COVID-19

written by Guest October 15, 2020



*Noah Hernbeck, the American Studies Institute student president, speaks during the induction ceremony for ASI members, Oct. 11. (Photo by Audrey Jackson)*

The American Studies Institute (ASI) made alterations for their annual induction event, which took place Sunday, Oct. 11, to accommodate inducting one of the University's largest classes yet while adhering to COVID-19 guidelines.

ASI has been a long-lasting program that gives students the opportunity to expand upon their educational excellence at Harding and connect with individuals in the Searcy community. This semester, Kim Kirkman, executive director of ASI, and Noah Hernbeck, ASI student president, have both had to plan events that have been changed drastically in comparison to years prior.

"The extra precautions that my staff and public safety will have to implement at events are multiple entrances, seating 6 feet apart, mask-wearing," Kirkman said "All of this will add more responsibility to getting the event executed successfully."

Typically, the induction ceremony is held in Cone Chapel or the McInteer Rotunda, but both of these spaces were too small to accommodate the 132 students that were inducted this year. Instead, the induction was held outside on the front lawn in order to accommodate the inductees and maintain proper social distancing.

“Becoming a member of ASI is an accomplishment, and we want it to feel that way,” Hernbeck said. “With it being outside at a very central location on campus, there is more opportunity for visibility with other students. We are inducting the largest class ever into ASI this year, so even though we [were] spread out it [still felt] like a big event.”

Every organization has had to make drastic changes to their normal schedule due to the circumstances brought on by COVID-19. Given the current environment, it is important to many of these organizations that they put the safety and well-being of their members as top priority.

“So much has had to go virtual this year,” Holden Montgomery, senior ASI officer said. “I’m a communications major — I believe in the power of face to face communication. Being present connects you so much more to the experience than a virtual meeting. Being able to be there and hear it all live was really beneficial. We were super blessed to be able to be there and do that — and on a beautiful day too.”

# BISON FOOTBALL PLAYER NAMED WILLIAM V. CAMPBELL TROPHY SEMIFINALIST

*written by Danielburley, October 15, 2020*



*Photo by Jeff Montgomery*

On Oct. 1, the National Football Foundation named senior offensive lineman Mills Bryant as a semifinalist for the William V. Campbell Trophy, which is given to an American college football player with the best combination of academics, community service and on-field performance. Bryant is one of 199 student athletes and one of 20 Division II football players who met the qualifications to be a semifinalist for the award.

"I was pretty astonished and really excited," Bryant said after being named a semifinalist for the award. "Then, my competitive spirit got in there and said, 'Okay, let's be a finalist, and let's see how far we can take it.'"

Bryant, who has redshirted and played for the Bison football team since his freshman year, said being nominated speaks more to the football team than it does for his personal talent.

"This award really is a nomination of the Harding Bison football team and not of Mills Bryant," Bryant said. "They could have nominated a number of players on this team, and it would have been for the whole Bison football team because of the brotherhood and dynasty of men they build."

Bryant was heavily involved with activities such as Relay for Life and Special Olympics, as well as being the president of men's social club Titans last year. Former teammates of Bryant said his community involvement helped show his character and work ethic both on and off the football field.

"Whether it's on the field, off the field, being in the weight room or classroom, he's excelled at pretty much everything he has done," former defensive lineman Toni Montez said. "He helped lead offseason practice groups to wins when no one thought they could, and [Titans] arguably had one of their best years under him."

Harding football coaches agreed with Montez and stated that Bryant potentially winning this trophy would only end up being one more accomplishment in his long list during his time with the football team.

"In my mind, Mills's legacy is already set on the football team," assistant offensive coach Matt Underwood said. "It would be an honor to see him win it, but whether he wins or not will not change how the team views him and feels about him."

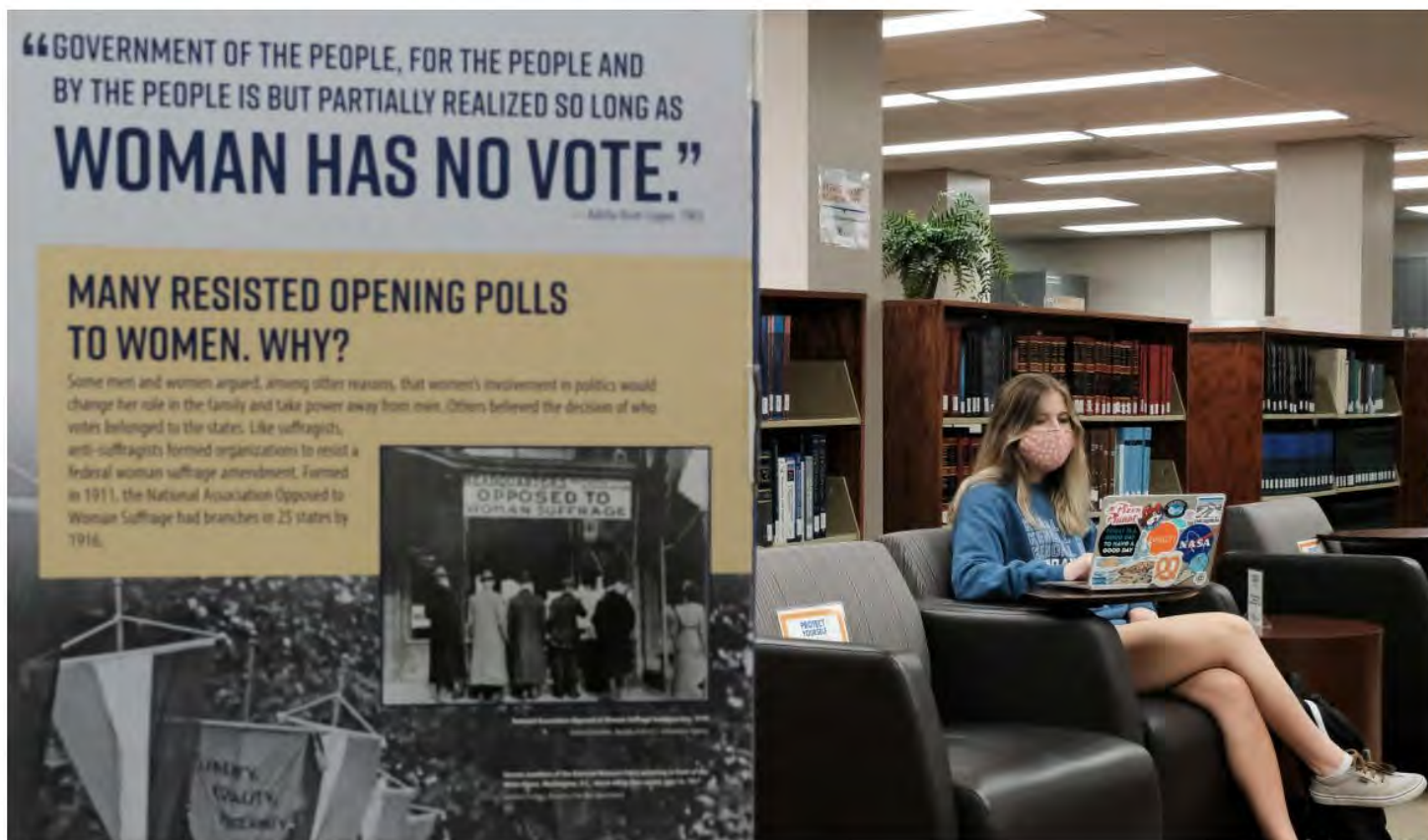
Bryant also had some words for young and upcoming Bison athletes on how to treat their college athletic careers.

"Just take it one day at a time, and you'll be successful," Bryant said. "These days will start to stack up over time, and it will all lead to success down the road both in sports and your personal life." The National Football Foundation will announce the 12 to 14 finalists for the trophy in November. Each finalist will receive a scholarship for their postgraduate education. The winner will receive a larger scholarship along with a 25 pound version of the trophy. That individual will be announced later this year.



# BRACKETT LIBRARY CELEBRATES 19TH AMENDMENT ANNIVERSARY WITH 'RIGHTFULLY HERS' EXHIBIT

written by Jadarobison October 15, 2020



*Sophomore Kayla Melton studies across from the "Rightfully Hers" exhibit displayed in the Brackett Library, Oct. 1  
(Photo by Audrey Jackson)*

The Brackett Library is celebrating the 100-year anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, by holding an exhibit called "Rightfully Hers."

The Rightfully Hers exhibit details the events of the women's suffrage movement and was given to Harding University by Dr. Cathleen Shultz — registrar of the Frederick Van Patten chapter (located in Searcy, Arkansas) of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The retired faculty member and founding dean of Harding's Carr College of Nursing, Shultz said the exhibit reminds the United States of what it often forgets.

"I believe that exposure to this important history has been sparse in recent years," Shultz said. "Our country forgot how long it took women to attain the right to vote. The exhibit was made by folks at the National Archives and distributed to communities across the country to honor the women and their journey as well as achievement of the right to vote. It's fascinating to view the progress, the setbacks, the marches and protests, and the hurdles they faced. We take the vote for granted many times."

Jean Waldrop, director for Brackett Library, said she hopes the exhibit encourages young women on campus to appreciate those who came before them and allowed them to have the opportunities they now have access to today.

"I hope that the exhibit will make the young women here think about and appreciate those women that came before us — that spent their time and energy to gain the right for us to vote," Waldrop said. "I think that the most important takeaway from the exhibit is that no one should take lightly the privilege we have to vote and to practice this right every time there is an election that you can participate in. The United States of America is a great place to live where every vote counts."

Senior Megan Moore works at Brackett Library, and she said the exhibit reminds her of just how brave the women who came before her were.

"It makes me feel empowered and reminds me of all the work that women before me did in order to ensure that I can have a voice in our political system," Moore said. "These women were bold, brave and strong, and that inspires me to be those things as well."

Shultz said that while this exhibit showcases how far the country has come, there is still some work to be done today.

"Work concerning women's rights will continue for many years," Shultz said. "For example, I believe that because more women than men lost employment due to the pandemic, the women will experience setbacks in equal pay, advancement and benefits."

However, Shultz said she hopes this encourages young men and women to take advantage of the opportunities offered to them.

"My deepest hope is for male and female students to cherish their right to vote, appreciate America's heritage of voting, and make a lifelong commitment to support democracy through voting," Shultz said.

# HARDING HOGS FANS CELEBRATE LONG-AWAITED FOOTBALL WIN

written by Kallybyrd October 15, 2020



*Graphic by Madison Deree*

Arkansas Razorbacks Football team started their season strong on Oct. 3 by winning their first Southeastern Conference (SEC) game since 2017. Many Harding students gather together to watch Arkansas play each week, as the Arkansas fan base is prevalent throughout Harding students and faculty, so the win brought a lot of excitement for many members of campus.

Assistant professor of communication and Razorback fan Tim Hamilton was born in Melbourne, Arkansas, and has been a Razorback fan since he was young. Hamilton attended the last Razorback SEC win in 2017 with his wife. Hamilton also worked for KATV in Little Rock, Arkansas, which is considered “The Razorback Station.” Hamilton had the opportunity to follow the “Razorback beat” with his work through KATV and pursue his passion for the Razorbacks through his work.



"I remember vividly watching the games on TV and seeing those red helmets with that white hog on it," Hamilton said. "Arkansas is a unique state because we don't have a professional team to pull for... the Razorbacks are kind of our professional team, so most everybody in Arkansas pulls for the Razorbacks."

For many Harding students who have grown up in Arkansas, being a Razorback fan has been a tradition in their families. Senior Reid Pace has been a fan since his family moved to Arkansas in 2005.

"My favorite part about being an Arkansas fan is the bond that people have across the state," Pace said. "You can go up to any stranger and they will have something to say about the Razorbacks, good or bad. It's unique because not many people have loyal fans like those in Arkansas."

The Razorbacks have a new coach for this season: Sam Pittman. He previously worked for the University of Georgia and had been an assistant coach at Arkansas. Arkansas fans are hopeful that Pittman can lead the Razorbacks to victory this season.

"Sam Pittman understands the unique culture of Arkansas and is well respected throughout the SEC," senior Razorback fan Zac Otwell said. "He loves this place just as much as the fans do, and I have no doubt he was the right man for the job."

The Razorbacks are currently at a 1-2 standing, having won their game against Mississippi State, and will be playing the University of Mississippi on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 2:30 p.m.

# OUTREACH MINISTRIES HOLDS DAY OF SERVICE

written by Emmajones October 15, 2020



*Zane Edwards uses a pruning lopper to trim a tree during the Day of Service hosted by Outreach Ministries on Oct. 11. (Photo by Namon Pope)*

Outreach Ministries held an “Outdoor Day of Service” on Oct. 11 to assist widowed members of College Church of Christ, along with a few other projects to help the Searcy community.

The idea behind the service project came from the cancellation of the annual Bisons for Christ event, usually held in the spring. Outreach Ministries recognized that those usually helped during Bisons for Christ had needs that had gone unmet, and thus organized an event to do just that.

“We were able to serve about 15 widows and do other projects for the community,” senior Anna Sanders, the Rock House’s Christians in Action student intern, said. “The projects for the widows [and widowers] involved raking leaves, basic yard work, mowing and cleaning up areas. The other projects included giving food to those in isolation, helping with His House, clean-up and set-up for students serving.”

According to Todd Gentry, who heads the Rock House Outreach program, about 75 Harding students participated. Most of the service projects took place outside, with students divided into smaller groups of eight. Gentry said around 100 extra meals were left over that had been prepared for student volunteers, which were later delivered to students on campus in isolation and quarantine.

"The Day of Service began to be planned after Bisons for Christ was canceled in April due to COVID-19," Gentry said. "We discussed ways to get service done for so many in need. We had to develop a plan that would allow for the guidelines."

Freshman student volunteer Madison Kenne helped at the event by raking and clearing the yard of a man who had recently undergone surgery, and said that she was glad to be able to assist someone in need during the day of service.

"It was great to serve someone after not being able to participate in service projects for months due to COVID-19," Keene said. "I would love to volunteer again in the future because it is a great way to serve the community and a way to make new godly friends."

Sanders said that she was heavily involved in the planning process for the day of service event, doing things such as hanging posters, passing out fliers and making a video to increase student involvement. "Christ calls us to be like him, and what better way than to help people who need it?" Sanders said. "As Christians, we are called to help the widows and orphans. This project did just that. I am so happy with the response we got, and I hope we can go back to doing Bison's For Christ in the spring."

# QUARANTINE AFFECTS STUDENTS' ONLINE SHOPPING HABITS

written by Guest October 15, 2020



*Graphic by Madison Deree*

When school and work moved online, potential consumers became a captive audience for online shopping.

From one poll conducted through this writer's account on Instagram, about half of the respondents said they chose to save money during the COVID-19 crisis. However, 49% of students used this opportunity to take advantage of a wide variety of sales and discounts.

"I shopped more than I usually do simply because I was working and there were better deals during quarantine," sophomore Mckenna Oliver said. "I also love shopping in general."

Many companies have promoted sales on their websites in order to maintain the demand to shop in a difficult market. Madewell, for example, hosted a "secret stock sale," discounting up to 70% during the summer months. Sales like this kept the market from becoming stagnant during a possibly financially straining year. Working students used this time to stock up while staying within their budget.

"I mostly did shopping at places like Kate Spade, Madewell and J.Crew — places I knew were having big sales," Oliver said. "Those places are usually expensive and were having great deals."

Through the same survey, almost 50% of respondents claimed Amazon as their go-to destination for shopping online. Other popular websites included Target, Athleta and Lululemon.

Many students also reported shopping at fast fashion sites, such as Shein, Romwe, Depop and others. However, other students, such as sophomore Emma Grace Steil, preferred thrifting online to remain environmentally conscious while sticking to a budget.

"I like shopping on Shein, but I also enjoy looking into brands that support good causes and are more sustainable, so I am trying to find more of those at the moment," Steil said.

Junior Blake Stout said that after his internship expenses were paid for, he invested in things to keep him from getting restless while in quarantine.

"My total amount of shopping went up, and I think that is mostly because of boredom," Stout said. "The things I bought were almost all entertainment-related."

Stout is not the only one who went online as a source of entertainment. Many students reported online shopping as a way to relieve stress, with around 45% of survey respondents saying they had spent over \$200 online.

Despite former habits, Steil said she noticed a shift in the way she shopped after being quarantined during the fall semester. She said that since school began, she had to consider other expenses before purchasing anything else.

"I think it has made me more conscientious of how I spend my money," Steil said.



# SAVANT IN THOUGHT: CHOOSING THE RIGHT TEAM

*written by Ryangallagher October 15, 2020*



One of the earliest memories of sports that I have was Super Bowl XL, where the Pittsburgh Steelers beat the Seattle Seahawks. The only thing I remember from that night was the emotions of frustration and gloom. At the time, being 5 years old, I decided that I would no longer support the Seahawks despite them being my home team. From that day on, I was a Philadelphia Eagles fan.

It is common for people to become a fan of the closest sports team to them geographically, but that is not the only reason people choose teams. Fans' loyalty may lie within a player compared to a team. Athletes develop their own fanbase, and as the athlete goes from team to team over the years, their fans do as well. This is seen frequently in soccer across the world. Major League Soccer (MLS) does not produce the high quality of soccer that Europe produces, like the English Premier League (EPL). Fans who choose to follow teams in Europe may start following a team because the team has one of their favorite athletes, and whether their loyalty remains to the team once their favorite player leaves is different among fans.

Some people never find a favorite team and choose to watch sports for the pure sense of entertainment: They are a fan of the sport instead of a fan of the team. They choose to not get attached to a team, and rather watch all the games being played to enjoy the art of the sport. Once again, this is common for people who follow European soccer. Fans may never get attached to a European team; they watch it for the quality of the gameplay.

Regardless of whether one is a fan of a team, a player on the team or the sport in general, one's reason for their fanaticism varies. Fans can extend all the way to family or friend connections and sports owners. When a family member plays for or works for a team, you wish the team well. They may be your new favorite team, or it may be a team you choose to appreciate because of the opportunity it gave to your associate. Also, who cheers against their own family or friend? Cheering for a team because of their owner is the rarest case. It is like cheering for a team based on their favorite player. When the Los Angeles Football Club (LAFC) came to the MLS, it attracted a lot of fans due to one of their investors being Will Ferrell. Los Angeles has two soccer teams, and this factor has helped LAFC gain popularity.

For the teams I choose to support, these were all factors amongst the wide diversity of my teams. I have supported the Boston Red Sox since the first Major League Baseball game I watched was with a Red Sox fan. I support the Seattle Sounders due to location and their notable owner, Drew Carey. Lastly, in the EPL, I support Everton from when Tim Howard played for them, and despite him leaving, I continue to support them.

# STUDENT ATHLETES MODIFY TRAINING REGIMENS WHILE QUARANTINED

written by Rachel Bible October 15, 2020



*Graphic by Isabelle Cutts*

For Harding athletes, being quarantined or isolated due to COVID-19 guidelines puts their usual athletic training and practice schedule to a halt. However, this semester, several student athletes have chosen to return home when being forced to quarantine to continue their athletic training and avoid any further setbacks.

“I just wanted to be able to go outside,” junior Grace Ann Green, midfielder for the women’s soccer team, said. “I knew I wouldn’t be able to train well if I had to stay in my room.”

Green said that the majority of their time right now is being spent maintaining fitness levels and skill training. Green spent two weeks in quarantine early in the semester, and chose to return to her home in Atlanta for that time period.

Green said that during her time at home she was still in constant contact with the team’s head coach, Dr. Greg Harris, who called to check in daily.

“Coach Harris would just call to make sure I was doing okay, but he was also sending funny or encouraging messages in our group text with the team,” Green said.

Sophomore Lauren Shell, a member of the women’s track and field team, had to quarantine after testing positive for COVID-19.

“My coaches have been really encouraging to me about not pushing it,” Shell said. “They don’t want me to worry about jumping right back into practice — they just want me to be my best.”

In order for a student athlete to begin practices after testing positive, they must pass a cardiac test. This test allows for coaches to see the fitness level of the athlete and demonstrates their ability to practice. After the student passes the cardiac test, they are then allowed to practice at the coach’s discretion. If they do not pass the first time, they must retest until they are able to pass.

“Just knowing that the coaches want me to get back to fitness on my own time is really relieving,” Shell said.

Both Shell and Green attest to the pressure felt by student athletes to remain healthy, especially during this time.

“It’s really hard to be cooped up in a room for 14 days while the rest of the team is practicing,” freshman James Lee, defender for the men’s soccer team, said. “But, you know, I’ve been trying to keep up as best I can, doing body weight workouts and ball work.”

During his time in quarantine, Lee has been trying to continue to work on skills by bringing a soccer ball with him and doing workouts that do not require equipment.

“I’m bummed, you know, as a freshman I wanted to come in and prove myself,” Lee said. “But, you know, with this obstacle you just have to work harder when you get out.”

Similar to any students in quarantine or isolation, having a support system is necessary. Lee said this time reinforced the community provided by the soccer team.

“This time has really shown me just how nice the other players and the coaches are, so it’s not all bad,” Lee said.